



INDUSTRY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF
THE TREASURY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
Washington, D.C. 20226

Number: 73-10

Date: May 11, 1973

EXPERIMENTAL PACKAGING OF DISTILLED SPIRITS IN POLYVINYL CHLORIDE LIQUOR BOTTLES

Proprietors of Distilled Spirits Plants,
Manufacturers of Liquor Bottles,
Importers, Wholesale Liquor Dealers
and Others Concerned:

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has been advised by the Food and Drug Administration that it intends to issue a proposed regulation in the Federal Register, with a 60-day comment period, which will, if it becomes final, no longer allow the packaging of alcoholic beverages in PVC containers. The proposed regulation, as reported to ATF, is the result of information recently provided to FDA with respect to the migration of vinyl chloride monomer into various distilled spirits packaged in PVC containers. ATF's Scientific Services Division is currently working in cooperation with the FDA Laboratories to verify the levels of the reported migration.

The FDA has further advised, in regard to their proposed regulation, that it seems prudent at this time to anticipate the possibility that this order will become final.

In order to minimize the amount of alcoholic beverages which are packaged in PVC containers, official notice is hereby given that the experimental packaging of distilled spirits in PVC containers will terminate at midnight May 11, 1973, local time.

Inquiries concerning this circular should be addressed to the Director.

Rex D. Davis
Director